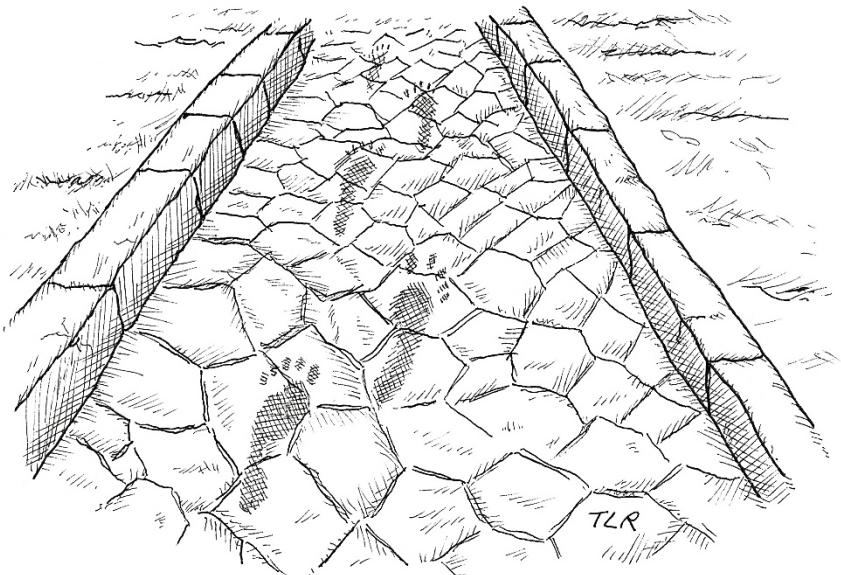


BE PREPARED!

PERSONAL PREPARATION FOR THE GREAT COMMISSION



“HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO PROCLAIM
GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS!”—Romans 10:15b (LSB)

VALLEY GRACE BRETHREN CHURCH OF ARMAGH, PA
JUNE 2ND, AD 2024

THE LORD'S DAY

The Second Day of June, *in the Year of our Lord 2024*

Welcome to the worship services of Valley Grace Brethren Church!



Sunday School—9:30 AM.

We continue our exciting and illuminating studies in Church History, looking at historic debates over the nature of God.

Morning Worship—10:30 AM.

Call to Worship:^{*} *“Glory be the Father” (#559).*

Invocation.^{*}

Hymn: *“Bringing in the Sheaves” (#463).*

Prayer for Tithes & Offerings.

Scripture Reading: Romans 10:9-17

Prayer, Praises, & Testimony.

Graduation Recognition: Courtland “Junior” Beach (Kindergarten) Announcements.

Hymn: *“Onward Christian Soldiers” (#474).*

Dismissal of Youth for Children’s Church.

Greeting One Another.

Message: *“...AND YOU SHALL BE MY WITNESSES” (Pt. II).*

Closing Hymn:^{*} *“Footprints of Jesus” (#462).*

Benediction.^{*}



Week of May 26 – June 1

Sunday School—6; Morning Worship—12; Midweek—3;
Offering—\$323.00; Internet Archive Audio—34 (last current);
Video (cumulative: Rumble, YouTube, Facebook)—119

MIDWEEK PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY: 6:30 PM

UPDATE ON GUS: May 29, 2024



Over the last week, Gus has done well in terms of post-operative recovery. He had several days of discomfort and delirium, but he seems to be moving past that. He's taking a bottle again. He's alert when awake. Unfortunately, we've had two discouraging developments re: his heart & kidneys. Despite what were originally promising results, it appears the tricuspid regurgitation (TR) we sought to address in surgery last week has gone from mild back to severe - as it was prior to surgery. The cause of this is unknown. Gus will have another TEE (transesophageal echocardiogram) tomorrow to get a better look at the heart's function and anatomy. Hopefully we will learn why this regress has occurred. It could be any number of issues. Perhaps the valve has gotten worse. It could be a fluid balance issue. Maybe something done during the surgery has since failed - we simply don't know. What we do know is that valve repair surgeries are very complex and don't always produce the desired results...and Gus rarely does things the easy way. As for the other development: the most recent renal scan has shown further deterioration of kidney function. While the kidneys are still perfusing, they are not perfusing as effectively as they were a month ago, with little to no output. This suggests the prognosis for his kidneys is poor. Even if they recover, the likelihood of CKD and eventual renal failure is increasingly likely. It's hard to hear news like this 177 days into our journey with Gus. We're tired and worn out. We're thankful for our friends and family who continue to support us, as well as for all those who are following our story and offering their prayers and encouragement. We continue to confess that God is good. Even in the midst of difficulty, there is beauty. There are precious, happy moments that, apart from the amazing care Gus has received, we wouldn't have had with him. We pray, and we hope, and we love. God's grace will prove sufficient.



Once again our friends at **CEF** will be doing our **VBS** this year, which will be held **July 8-to-12**, from **12:30-to-2:00 PM**. Our theme this year is "**ONE WAY!**," and we will feature a racing-car motif. Please be inviting children from pre-K through elementary school age. 

Africa Update

Pastor Keith Merriman; 5/29/24

Dear beloved brethren,



Greetings in the Lord Jesus Christ. Please pray for Pastor Simon Peter Otudo (Eastern Uganda). He has been very sick for three weeks with a bacterial infection that the doctors have not been able to treat effectively. He has been very weak and was in the hospital for one week. He

is now home but has no energy. Please pray for the Lord's healing and for the medications he has been receiving to take effect. Thanks so much for your gifts and prayers! Keith

PS: We sent the final \$2000 food relief to Northwest Cameroon last week. What a blessing it has been to help our brothers and sisters there.

Message from Pastor Nchida Felix:

Hello pastor Keith, greetings to you from my humble self. I write to you on behalf of the North West district of the Brethren of Cameroon to express our gratitude once again concerning the money we just received again as food relief for the Brethren. our joy and happiness is full and the first thanks goes to God for making things to be this way and the second thanks to all of you who are having the concern for us. We promise to be faithful and to serve God till Christ come.

“...AND YOU SHALL BE MY WITNESSES”

(Introduction to the *Evangelism Explosion* method of sharing the Gospel)

PART II: Like the Boy Scout Motto, “**BE PREPARD!**”



SPIRITUAL PREPARATION:

1. Be “prayed-up.” You CAN share the Gospel & relate your personal testimony—but you CANNOT change someone's heart or SAVE them. **GOD CAN do this, however** (Ps. 3:8, Matt. 1:21, John 6:37)!!! Salvation is a Divine work—thus, we approach evangelism

with both assurance and humility, and we faithfully pray in intercession for others, even as Moses prayed for Israel (Ex. 32).

2. Be sanctified as a fit vessel for Divine empowerment!

John 15:3-5, 2 Tim. 2:21.

3. Be “studied-up.” Be PREPARED! You never know WHEN the door of opportunity will suddenly open (2 Tim. 4:1-2).